



DELTA PROTECTION COMMISSION'S Economic Sustainability Plan Framework Study

Community Meeting Summary - Round One

September 13, 2010 - Courtland (Courtland Auditorium) - 146 Primasing Avenue - 6-8:00 p.m.

The following meeting summary was from the first of five community meetings scheduled in the Delta to gather public input on the creation of the framework for the upcoming Economic Sustainability Plan (ESP). The Delta Protection Commission will complete the ESP by July 2011. The adopted plan will include information and recommendations that will be used for future planning efforts, including the Delta Stewardship Council's policies regarding the socioeconomic sustainability of the Delta region. The ESP will address multiple issues relating to the Delta's economic sustainability, including public safety and flood protection, recreation and tourism, agriculture and business, and infrastructure.

OVERVIEW

The community meeting was held in the Courtland Auditorium on Monday, September 13, 2010 from 6-8:00 p.m. Approximately 40 community members attended the meeting. Commissioner Don Nottoli and DPC staff were in attendance, along with the ESP Framework planning team.

PRESENTATION

Linda Fiack, Matt Kowta and Seann Rooney presented the project to the group, outlining past legislation (that calls for the preparation of the ESP) and the project timeline. Also reviewed were the role and history of the commission, the scope of the current planning effort and some preliminary economic data. The presentation was followed by a 45 minute discussion with participants. The discussion concluded and community members were encouraged to provide comments after the large group session. The event concluded at 8:30 p.m.

DISCUSSION

The following comments were offered during the large group discussion (and from three comment cards):

- Levees have multiple roles (from public safety to protecting the state's water supply)
- DPC needs to talk to people from the reclamation districts
- Water flow is critical (What is necessary to sustain farming, industry, recreation and other portions of the economy? What are the economic ties to water flow?)
- Using appropriate and accurate information to frame the discussion is very important (concern with some of the information on the slides)
- All specifics (information) should be on the DPC website. Sources should be made available before the end of

(Notes - Continued)

this study (footnotes)

- Supporting information should be based on fact
- Change the slide about “consensus” about levee collapse to some “concern” about levee collapse
- Economic relief/incentive for Delta development (non-residential)
- Plan should be flexible for “unknowns” – look back in future years
- How much water is in the river? Seems like water is up higher even though there is a shortage of water?
- Levees are a key element/consideration (need engineers input)
- “Small” amount of growth is needed to support communities
- Transfer of development rights for growth and to support local businesses
- Look at the economic ability to support reclamation district projects. Ag pays assessment; public owned land does not
- Who pays for levees (improvements, etc.)?
- Keep existing businesses viable
- Is the DPC staff working with the Delta Stewardship Council (to influence each others plans)?
- Stewardship Council should work with legislature (on the need for regulatory relief)
- Water rights need to be considered (in Delta users)
- Regulation review (comprehensive)
- We have 95 marinas/10,000 slips – important to look at who they support
- Promote water-based recreation. Especially in existing anchorage areas (Steamboat Slough). Recreation is seasonal. How will delta businesses survive in the winter months?
- Meeting notes/comments should be shared with the next group
- Is the DPC supposed to preserve/protect water and property rights?
- Plan should consider “through Delta” corridors
- Blog should be a part of outreach (wiki) program
- Delta economy pie charts for primary zone/secondary zone (two)
- Information should be on the website before the meetings
- Delta utility corridors shouldn't interfere with farming
- How have you chosen focus groups?
- Define sustainability. Nobody has the same definition (survival, no net loss of producing acres should be part of the definition)...before the plan is created we need to define sustainability
- Some projects have the potential of wiping out certain delta communities
- What is national heritage? Economic sustainability plan needs to consider “seismic risk” and “climate change risks” (sea level rise and hydrological changes) in the Delta
- Will bi-lingual outreach be part of the plan (harvest)? How will the consultants reach out to the farming community?
- Industry breakdown (as shown on pie charts, etc.) should highlight business makeup in the primary zone and secondary zone (differentiate)
- Is there funding to complete both phases of the plan?

